

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

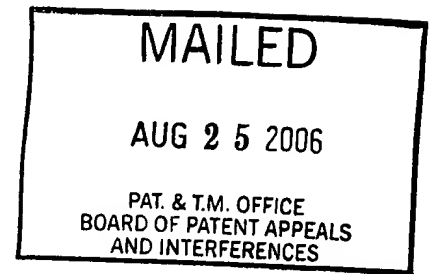
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte DAVID M. SIEFERT

Appeal No. 2006-1860
Application No. 08/813,714

ON BRIEF



Before HAIRSTON, BARRY, and BLANKENSHIP, Administrative Patent Judges.

HAIRSTON, Administrative Patent Judge.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This is an appeal from the final rejection of claims 15 through 22.

The disclosed invention relates to a resource management system in which a plurality of servers are grouped into interconnected regional servers and local servers, and all of the servers are accessible via a user computer.

Claim 15 is the only independent claim on appeal, and it reads as follows:

15. A resource management system, comprising:

(a) a plurality of servers grouped into interconnected regional servers and local servers, wherein the regional servers serve a region and hold one or more profiles for resources associated with the local servers within the region;

(b) the resources being classified as physical resources and soft resources, wherein the physical resources are not downloadable from the local servers and the soft resources are downloadable from the local servers;

(c) each of the resources having at least one of the profiles associated therewith, wherein each of the profiles includes a description and a location of the associated resource, and wherein each of the profiles, when created, is assigned to a category; and

(d) one or more user computers interconnected with the regional and local servers, and including means for storing the profiles of the resources into one or more of the regional servers, means for searching the profiles stored in the regional servers by category, and means for requesting delivery of the resources associated with the local servers based on the searched profiles.

The references relied on by the examiner are:

Miller et al. (Miller)	5,475,819	Dec. 12, 1995 (effective filing date Oct. 2, 1990)
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Pisello et al. (Pisello)	5,495,607	Feb. 27, 1996 (filed Nov. 15, 1993)
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Terry et al. (Terry), "Continuous Queries over Append-Only Databases," ACM-SIGMOD, pp. 321-22 (1992).

Claims 15 through 20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pisello in view of Miller.

Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pisello in view of Miller and Terry.

Reference is made to the briefs and the answer for the respective positions of the appellant and the examiner.

OPINION

We have carefully considered the entire record before us, and we will sustain the obviousness rejections of claims 15 through 22.

We agree with the examiner's findings (answer, pages 4 and 5) that Pisello describes a plurality of servers grouped into interconnected regional servers 150 and local servers 110 through 140, wherein the regional servers serve a region (i.e., domain 190) and hold one or more profiles in virtual catalog 150.00 for resources (i.e., files) associated with the local servers within the region (Figure 1; Tables 1 and 2). The resources are stored in physical memory resources in the centralized domain management system as soft resources, and the soft resources are downloadable from the local servers.

The examiner relied on the secondary reference to Miller for a teaching of soft resources as well as physical resources, and we agree with the examiner's findings (answer, pages 5 and 6) that the skilled artisan would have found it obvious to combine the teachings of Pisello and Miller. On the other hand, we find that the skilled artisan would have known from the teachings of Pisello that physical resources (e.g., the physical memory on which the soft resources are stored) cannot be downloaded from the local servers.

We additionally agree with the examiner's findings (answer, pages 4-5) that:

each of the resources (files) having at least one of the profiles (entry/entries in virtual catalog 150.00) associated therewith, wherein each of the profiles (entry) includes a description (attributes/fields such as File_name) and a location (File_source) of the associated resource, and wherein each of the profiles, when created, is assigned to a category (searchable field(s), such as that represented by name, or extension of name); [col. 13-14, table 2]

and that

one or more user computers (administrator workstation 160 including GUI 165, user workstation 170) interconnected with (via network-linking backbone 105) the regional and local servers [fig. 1], and including means for storing the profiles of the resources into one or more of the regional servers (domain-wide scan for virtual catalog snapshots via administrator interface GUI 165), means for searching the profiles stored in the regional servers (search virtual catalog 150.00) [col. 15, lines 24-51; col. 16, lines 52-67] by category (searchable fields such as that represented by name, or extension of name) [col. 15, lines 35-51], and means for requesting the delivery of resources associated with the local servers (transfer/migrate files performed via GUI 165) based on the searched profiles (after consulting virtual catalog 150.00 via GUI 165) [table 3 and denoting text; col. 22, lines 61-67; col. 24, lines 62-67].

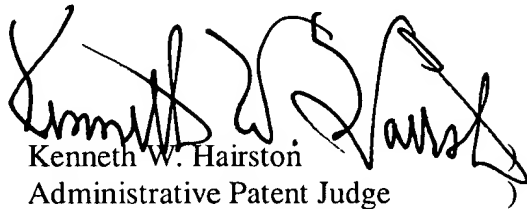
In summary, the obviousness rejection of claim 15 is sustained. The obviousness rejections of claims 16 through 22 are sustained because appellant has not presented any patentability arguments for these claims apart from those presented for claim 15 (brief, page 7; reply brief, page 3).

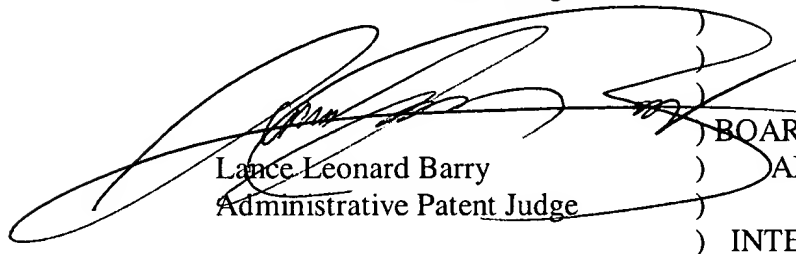
DECISION

The decision of the examiner rejecting claims 15 through 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is affirmed.

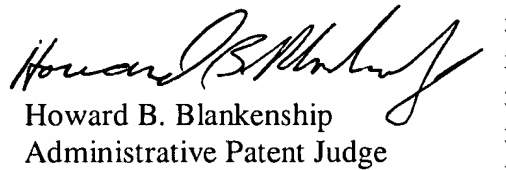
No time period for taking any subsequent action in connection with this appeal
may be extended under 37 CR § 1.136(a)(1)(iv).

AFFIRMED


Kenneth W. Hairston
Administrative Patent Judge


Lance Leonard Barry
Administrative Patent Judge

) BOARD OF PATENT
) APPEALS
) AND
) INTERFERENCES


Howard B. Blankenship
Administrative Patent Judge

KWH/tdl

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